# ECOTOURISM MANAGEMENT OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE MANGROVE FOREST IN BANGLAS VILLAGE, TEBING TINGGI DISTRICT, MERANTI ISLANDS REGENCY

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# Keywords

## **Abstract**

Management, Ecotourism, BUMDES. The Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism is the only tourist destination in Banglas Village which is managed by BUMDES Banglas Bestari. Mangrove forests have the potential to be managed and developed because mangroves have aesthetic value, therefore cultivating and developing mangroves to be used as tourist destinations in the local area. This study aims to determine how the management of the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism and the obstacles to managing this ecotourism. The theoretical concept used is the management concept of Iwan Nugroho. This study uses a qualitative research method with a descriptive approach. The results of the research found indicate that the management carried out by BUMDES Banglas Bestari has not run optimally where there is no planning document, In its implementation, there are still some things that have not gone well, such as lack of coordination, and control over ecotourism management is still less organized and structured. The inhibiting factors in the management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism are limited funding sources, accessibility and inadequate facilities and infrastructure, and the imposition of restrictions on community activities (PPKM).

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Efforts to increase national income and improve people's welfare through the tourism sector which of course require the willingness of tourist destinations, if only utilizing the tourism that has been provided by nature is not enough, therefore it is necessary to develop the tourism sector. Development in the tourism sector is in the form of activities that explore all tourism potentials, both those originating from

natural resources, human resources and man-made resources, all of which require proper handling. The legal basis for tourism development following the principles of development is the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 10 of 2009 concerning Tourism (Article 6 concerning Tourism development which is carried out based on the principles referred to in Article 2 which is realized through the implementation of tourism development plans by taking into account the diversity, uniqueness, and cultural and natural peculiarities and human needs for travel.

In the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation Number 33 of 2009 that ecotourism is the potential of natural resources, the environment, as well as the uniqueness of nature and culture, which can be one of the leading sectors of the region that has not been developed optimally; that in the context of developing ecotourism in the region optimally, it is necessary to plan strategies, use, control, strengthen institutions, and empower the community by taking into account social, economic, ecological principles, and involving stakeholders. The city is Selatpanjang. One of the ecotourism in Meranti Islands Regency is the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism in Banglas Village, Tebing Tinggi District. Mangrove forest is a forest ecosystem in the area around the coast which is usually overgrown with trees that survive in an environment containing high salt content. Mangrove ecosystems are often referred to as mangrove forests. The word mangrove comes from the Portuguese language, namely mangue which means plant, and grove which comes from English which means thicket.

Mangroves are a general term for plant communities that live in coastal areas and have special adaptability to the environment. Mangroves have many functions for the environment, one of which is that the mangrove ecosystem can act as a barrier against intrusion of wind, waves and seawater. In addition, the mangrove forest is also a breeding ground for all kinds of fish, shrimp, crabs, shellfish, snails and other animals. Mangroves are also the habitat of many wild animals such as birds, monitor lizards, otters and monkeys. In community activities that use the mangrove ecosystem to look for wood and natural tourist attractions, we can see the importance of mangroves for society and the economy, and strengthen the system by taking into account social, economic, and ecological principles by involving stakeholders, and community empowerment.

Mangroves have aesthetic value. Because of this aesthetic function, mangroves are often managed as a reference for managing natural attractions. This tourist destination has its own charm for tourists. Cultivating and developing mangroves to be used as tourist destinations is one of the right steps.

The rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism is a tourist spot located in Hamlet II, Banglas Village, Tebing Tinggi District, Meranti Islands Regency. The area of mangrove forest in the ecotourism environment is 2 hectares. This mangrove forest area used to often occur illegal logging carried out by irresponsible people. Then the local community discussed with the village head how to use the mangrove

forest. Thanks to the enthusiasm and persistence of the community and those who help the mangrove forest area, it has become the only tourist destination in Banglas Village and has become an icon of Banglas Village. This mangrove forest ecotourism has been widely exposed since it was inaugurated on November 19, 2019. The following are the facilities and infrastructure available at the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism, Tebing Tinggi District, Meranti Islands Regency, namely:

Table 1.1 Number of Ecotourism Facilities and Infrastructure for the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest

No.	Facilities and infrastructure	Amount
1.	Gazebo	8
2.	Toilet	2
3.	Canteen	1
4.	Rubbish bin	3
5.	Speed boat	2
6.	Canoe Paddle	3
7.	Paddle Duck	3

Source: BUMDes Banglas Bestari, Banglas Village (processed researchers 2022)

From the table above, it can be seen that the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism has facilities and infrastructure, namely Gazebo with good condition, toilet with good condition, canteen with poor condition, trash can with good condition which is separated for organic and inorganic waste, *speedboat* in good condition, paddle canoe in good condition, and rowing duck in good condition but have never been operated because the pond is too small. To support the management of the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism to develop better, it is necessary to add additional facilities and infrastructure such as prayer rooms, canteens, and other attractions.

Figure 1.1
Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism



This mangrove forest ecotourism is the result of deliberation between the community, community leaders and the RT/RW with the village government. Mangrove tourism is a form of promoting the village and improving the community's economy. It is hoped that not only the people of the Meranti Islands Regency will visit, but people from outside the Meranti Islands Regency can also visit this ecotourism.

The purpose of establishing mangrove forest ecotourism tourism is to: as a destination because in the village of banglas there is no place for recreation to release boredom. So that people know that this mangrove forest is a forest that is protected and maintained and preserved. And to improve the economy of the village government in general, we see that the tourism potential is very large as a place of relaxation. Although still relatively new, the mangrove ecotourism is visited by visitors every day if the average is 100 people per day.

Table 1.2 Number of Visitors of Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism

Month	Number of visitors		
	2020	2021	
January	7,523 people	150 people	
February	3,451 people	142 people	
March	617 people	128 people	
April	Closed	Closed	
May	Closed	Closed	
June	Closed	Closed	
July	1,721 people	134 people	
August	2,149 people	Closed	
September	230 people	101 people	
October	Closed	Closed	
November	Closed	124 people	
December	Closed	122 people	

Source: BUMDes Banglas Bestari, Banglas Village (processed researchers 2022)

From the table above, it can be seen that the number of visitors in 2021 fell drastically. This is because visitors to the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism are on average from local visitors. Most of them are from the high cliffs sub-district, and a small part are from other sub-districts and then some are from outside the district. Then it was added that in 2021 the number of Covid cases increased so that there were restrictions on community activities so that they were required to temporarily close.

Ecotourism management activities of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest have an influence on development aspects, namely social aspects, economic aspects and environmental aspects. The influence of the social aspect of ecotourism management of the Rainbow Bridge mangrove forest is changing livelihoods where

this ecotourism can create jobs for people who do not have jobs such as being entrance ticket guards, parking guards, cleaners, security officers, and *speed boat drivers*. With the existence of mangrove forest ecotourism, norms have emerged at the location so as not to take actions to destroy mangroves, the level of awareness and compliance of residents with these norms is considered quite good. The influence of the economic aspect, namely the ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest provides business opportunities for the local community. The influence of the environmental aspect is that the mangrove forest functions as a buffer for the protection of coastal areas and as an effort to prevent abrasion.

There are several management efforts in tourism development carried out by the Banglas Village Government, one of which is the existence of the Village Millik Business Entity (BUMDES). To create a conducive atmosphere for the development of tourism in Banglas Village, they increase the readiness and awareness of the community around tourism destinations or tourist attraction locations so that they can act as good hosts for the development of tourism.

Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDES) are managed by the community and village government in an effort to strengthen the village economy and are formed based on the needs and potential of the village. And based on Government Regulation no. 43 of 2014 concerning Villages, article 1 paragraph 7, namely "Village-Owned Enterprises or BUMDES are business entities whose entire or most of the capital is owned by the Village through direct participation originating from Village assets which are separated to manage assets, services, business services. others for the greatest welfare of the village community"

Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDES) are village businesses that are managed by the village government, and are legal entities. The village government can establish village-owned enterprises in accordance with the needs and potential of the village. The formation of village-owned enterprises is determined by village regulations. The management of village-owned enterprises consists of the village government and the local village community. In this case, the manager of the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest ecotourism in Banglas Village, Tebing Tinggi District, Meranti Islands Regency is managed by BUMDES Banglas Bestari. With the management by BUMDES Banglas Bestari on Mangrove Forest Ecotourism, a good Mangrove Forest Ecotourism will be realized and in accordance with the purpose of establishing Ecotourism.

By looking at the complexity of the various meanings of ecotourism and the potential of an area, the management of mangrove forest ecotourism must be able to directly or indirectly create various opportunities to increase income for the surrounding community. Exploring the potential, value, and sustainability of mangrove ecosystem areas is a top priority. The goal is to find out to what extent this potential can be utilized to increase regional income based on the principles of justice and independence, so that in the end it can improve the welfare of the community.

Therefore, it is necessary to conduct research on the management and development of mangrove forest ecotourism to support the sustainable protection of the coastal environment. Based on the explanation above, the authors are interested in researching "Ecotourism Management of the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest in Banglas Village, Tebing Tinggi District, Meranti Islands Regency"

#### RESEARCH METHOD

This type of research is qualitative research. Qualitative research is a research method used to examine the condition of natural objects, where the researcher is the key instrument, data collection techniques are carried out by triangulation, data analysis is inductive, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning more than generalizations Sugiyono (2018). In qualitative research, the researcher himself plays an active role in the planning, process, and implementation of the research. As well as in qualitative research, the researchers themselves are the main instruments who go directly to the field and try to collect information themselves through interviews and documentation.

The research location that the researchers took was the Meranti Islands Regency, Selatpanjang, more precisely the Village Owned Enterprises (BUMDES) Banglas Bestari Banglas Village. The reason the researchers conducted research at the Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDES) was because BUMDES became the manager of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism in accordance with the problem to be studied, namely the Rainbow Bridge Mangrove Forest Ecotourism Management in Banglas Village, Tebing Tinggi District, Kepualaun Meranti Regency.

According to Hasan (2002:82) primary data is data obtained or collected directly in the field by the person conducting the research or the person concerned who needs it. Primary data can be obtained from informants, namely individuals or individuals such as the results of interviews conducted by researchers. This primary data comes from notes from interviews conducted by researchers. Secondary data is data obtained or collected by people conducting research from existing sources (Hasan, 2002:58).

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest by BUMDES Banglas Bestari has an influence on development aspects, namely social aspects, economic aspects and environmental aspects. The influence of the social aspect of ecotourism management of the Rainbow Bridge mangrove forest is changing livelihoods where this ecotourism can create jobs for people who do not have jobs such as being entrance ticket guards, parking guards, cleaners, security officers, and speed boat drivers. With the existence of mangrove forest ecotourism, norms have emerged at the location so as not to take actions to destroy mangroves, the level of awareness and compliance of residents with these norms is considered quite good.

The influence of the economic aspect, namely the ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest provides business opportunities for the local community. The influence of the environmental aspect is that the mangrove forest functions as a buffer for the protection of coastal areas and as an effort to prevent abrasion. By looking at the complexity of the various meanings of ecotourism and the potential of an area, the management of mangrove forest ecotourism must be able to directly or indirectly create various opportunities to increase income for the surrounding community. Exploring the potential, value, and sustainability of mangrove ecosystem areas is a top priority.

# **Planning**

Planning in management is an initial step in the preparation of plans and formulating the implementation of activities in order to achieve the goals that have been determined. In carrying out activities, it must be based on the plans that have been made so that these activities run. Without good planning it will experience difficulties and obstacles. Planning is one of the basic elements in management. Planning is the main stage of the management function, especially in the ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest in Banglas Village. Planning is very necessary when determining the plans that will be carried out in the ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest. Initial planning for the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism in Banglas Village because this mangrove forest area is considered to have the potential to be a tourist destination, so a decree was issued by the village head appointing the Banglas Bestari Village Owned Enterprise (BUMDES) to manage all forms of mangrove forest ecotourism management activities. rainbow bridge. The following are the results of interviews that researchers conducted with informants to obtain information and data on planning indicators in the management of rainbow bridge ecotourism: "The original idea in this mangrove forest ecotourism development plan came from the local community and has also become my vision and mission. as following the orders from the minister behind which villages not only build physical but also have to build tourist destinations. So this ecotourism is made as an innovation because in Banglas village there is no place to visit. Before the tourist attractions were established, it was a Mangrove area managed by Pokdarwis. After it was built, it was handed over to BUMDES to manage the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism" (Interview with Banglas Village Head, Mr. Samurizal SH, 11 January 2021).

In the same statement regarding the ecotourism management planning of mangrove forests, it is explained as follows: "Before ecotourism was created, at that time there were a group of youths who made private tours, but because we lacked capital, it did not continue. For maturity, it was from the village of Mr. Samsurizal, if for the idea that we wanted to make a tour, it was from the youth, then when Mr. Samsurizal wanted to make a plan to make a tourist destination, the idea was

welcomed by the village head at that time. Because that is the vision and mission of Mr. Samsurizal." (Interview with Pokdarwis Chair, Mr. Sufridaus, S. Sy, 11 January 2021).

From the results of the interviews above that the authors obtained from informants, it can be seen that the planning for ecotourism management of the Rainbow Bridge mangrove forest was formed from the ideas of the Banglas villagers because there are no tourist destinations in Banglas Village that can be visited. Because so far the people of Selatpanjang have gone out for a vacation or been creative with their family. But with the ecotourism of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest, they can be creative, have an excursion with their family in the long strait by enjoying the forest on the seafront.

Planning is needed in determining the goals of an organization. Determining goals is an activity to determine something that must be achieved, in carrying out activities it must be based on the plans that have been made so that these activities run. Good planning begins with a clear goal. The main purpose of ecotourism management of the Rainbow Bridge mangrove forest as a tourist destination is to make the community aware that the mangrove forest is a forest that must be protected and must be maintained and preserved. With this ecotourism, it can also help increase economic income and create jobs for people in Banglas Village. The manager also introduces the types of mangroves that exist in the tourist area, namely each mangrove tree is given a name so that visitors who come can find out the types of mangroves in the ecotourism. This is in line with the concept of ecotourism where preserving the environment is the main goal of ecotourism. Planning in the management of mangrove forest ecotourism requires consistency, where this consistency is needed to keep this ecosystem maintained through conservation and planting of mangrove seedlings because if mangrove management is not carried out regularly through nurseries, it is feared that the management of mangrove forest ecotourism will not be optimal and will be damaged by the waves because it is on the beach so that more mangrove seedlings are needed. The more mangrove seedlings planted, the wider the mangrove forest will be and this will have an impact on the environment to prevent abrasion. Because ecotourism is related to one of the environmental aspects, structured planning is really needed so that it does not become a problem.

The more seeds that are planted, the better it will be for the existing ecosystem. As stated by the head of the village unit as follows: "Indeed there is planning in the environmental aspect, namely planting mangrove seedlings, we have also provided vacant land for the community or visitors who want to plant mangrove seedlings" (Interview with the head of the village tourism unit, Mr. Sufridaus, S. Sy, 15 September 2021). Based on the results of the interview above, there is planning in the environmental aspect, namely planting mangrove seedlings on vacant land that has been provided by the manager. If in management there is a plan to plant

mangrove seedlings continuously, this is good for sustainability.

Mangrove ecotourism management is in line with research conducted by (Wahyuni et al., 2012), that the potential tourism objects offered in mangrove ecotourism activities include: Mangrove educational tours and tracking are educational tour packages that surround mangrove ecotourism areas using wooden bridges ( wooden trail), Mangrove Tree Plantation or Adoption this activity is a collaboration of mangrove educational tour and tracking activities in the form of planting mangrove seedlings in ecotourism areas and Boating this activity is in the form of exploring tourist areas using speed boats with a certain capacity and can only be carried out at special times such as at high tide. This is in line with the research carried out by the researcher, which explains that ecotourism has the same activities as the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism so that this becomes a reference for researchers.

The more mangrove forests are planted, the better the ecosystem will be and it will have an influence on the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism and affect the sustainability of people's lives. In managing this mangrove forest ecotourism requires economic planning, namely planning for additional infrastructure and rides that can make the community comfortable so that many visitors will come . With the number of visitors who come it will affect the income income. And as for social planning, namely helping poor households, which is contained in the AD-ART regulations.

In preparing the plan must formulate the goals to be achieved in the future. Budget planning in the management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism is needed because with a clear budget, the planning process that has been prepared will run according to the predetermined goals. This was explained by the head of BUMDes Banglas bestari regarding budget planning in the management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism as follows: "The source of funds for the development of rainbow bridge forest ecotourism comes from the village budget and financial assistance from the province which is used to build facilities such as wooden bridges, toilets, gazebos and the development of mangrove forest ecotourism rides, namely the purchase of toys such as speed boats, rowing ducks, and other supporting facilities. Then other management costs, such as maintenance, we use funds from entrance fees and motorized vehicle parking. To enter ecotourism, Rp. 3,000 per person and Rp. 2,000 for motorized vehicle parking. we need more funds for the development of mangrove forest ecotourism to make it even better." (Interview with the head of BUMDES Banglas Bestari, Mr. Junaidi, 11 January 2021).

The same thing was conveyed by the Banglas Village Head regarding budget planning, namely as follows: "The rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism was inaugurated on November 19, 2019. The source of funds for the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism consists of 2, namely the Village Fund and provincial financial assistance through the APBDes for Village-Owned Enterprises to develop

ecotourism. From the village funds, the allocation is for physical development such as bridges. The allocation for supporting facilities for ecotourism development is the purchase of rides such as 2 speed boats, 3 paddle duck units, 3 paddle canoes, 30 safety jackets and other supporting facilities." (Interview with Banglas Village Head, Mr. Samurizal SH, 11 January 2021). From the interview above, it can be explained that the budget for the ecotourism development of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest is obtained from the village fund budget and financial assistance from the province. Construction of a mangrove tourism bridge from the 2019 village fund of idr 381,598,790, from the 2020 village fund for the Development of Bridge 1 of idr 86,212,000.00 and the addition of a bridge of idr 80,563,000.00 = idr 166,775,000 And from financial aid funds from the Province of 2019 of idr 177.300.000 through APBDes which is intended for BUMDES whose allocation is for supporting facilities for ecotourism development. Then for further management such as bridge maintenance, the manager utilizes entrance fees and motorized vehicle parking. From the explanation above, it can be concluded that budget planning is one of the important things in managing the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism to achieve the predetermined goals.

### **Implementation**

In ecotourism management, community involvement is important because the community also has a role to play in preserving the mangrove forest in their area. Participation is the participation of a person in an activity. Community participation in development and development can be carried out by voluntary involvement in the form of statements or in the form of activities such as providing input in the form of ideas, energy, goods, money or materials, as well as participating in utilizing and enjoying the results of development.

The community participates in the management of mangrove forest ecotourism, namely they work together voluntarily around the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism and plant mangrove seeds in addition to locations that need to be filled. And for the development of mangrove forest ecotourism there is a tourism awareness group, this tourism awareness group consists of young people who are in the village of banglas. they participate in mangrove forest ecotourism activities, namely maintaining and innovating by providing creativity and ideas for things that can make ecotourism even better, which aims to attract visitors to come and provide comfort such as providing lounge chairs, helping coloring, and making boards. name on each tree. Community participation is very much needed in the management of this rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism, because the ecotourism concept indirectly brings a positive impact to the surrounding community. With the existence of mangrove forest ecotourism, it creates jobs and adds more income than selling around ecotourism.

In the implementation of the management and development of the rainbow

bridge mangrove forest ecotourism, local wisdom is applied by the manager, namely protecting ecosystems such as marine animals that live around the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism, so we forbid capturing or destroying these ecosystems. In the implementation of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism based on environmental aspects, economic aspects and social aspects. In the environmental aspect, namely: Program for replanting mangrove seedlings. This planting is carried out around the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism, the types of mangrove seeds planted are mangroves and fire fires. The implementation of this mangrove seedling planting activity aims to preserve the coastal ecosystem and protect it from seawater abrasion. This activity is a conservation activity in the form of activities or actions to plant mangrove seedlings. The management collaborates with Pokdarwis and cooperates with the Forestry Service, then the management also invites the community to participate in planting and restoring mangroves that are not good.

In the economic aspect, namely the implementation of the construction of additional bridges, the purchase of rides, namely speed boats, floating ducks, and paddle boats to support the development of ecotourism in the rainbow bridge mangrove forest. With the addition of bridges and rides it will make visitors come and increase income for the community. In the social aspect, the implementation of providing assistance to poor households is 10% of the results. Providing assistance in 2021 BUMDES provides assistance to 10 family heads.

#### **Control or supervision**

Control or supervision is defined as a determining process in management. Control is a process carried out to check whether all activities carried out are in accordance with the predetermined plan. Control has an important role, namely to evaluate whether the objectives can be achieved, and if they cannot be achieved, the causal factors will be sought. Thus, corrective action is taken. Control or supervision is very important in an organization so that the success or performance of the organization becomes a benchmark for the extent to which the organization's monitoring activities are. Control can be said as an activity to identify and correct important deviations between the results achieved and the activities carried out. The following are the results of interviews that researchers conducted with informants to obtain information and data on control indicators in rainbow bridge ecotourism management: "The village head and I supervised the units' performance, and also checked the facilities. The actual monitoring time is at least twice a month, but it is possible that if there is time, we will still go to the field to monitor and supervise. Her schedule is not tied. If BPD in once a month. They usually check and monitor the cleanliness, security, parking, ticketing and physical fields such as bridges and what is lacking ..." (Interview with the head of BUMDES Banglas Bestari, Mr. Junaidi, 15 September 2021).

From the results of the interviews above that the authors obtained from

informants, it can be seen that the village head and the head of the BUMDES carry out supervision twice a month but if they have free time it is possible for them to do monitoring and for the BPD they do supervision once a month. There is no set schedule. The supervisor usually monitors the units in terms of their performance and checks the areas of cleanliness, security, parking, ticket guards and physical aspects such as bridges and what is lacking in the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism. Supervision is very necessary considering the low quality of people who understand tourism. Supervision also needs to be carefully planned and supervision carried out regularly and structured.

The monitoring process that has been carried out on activities, there is a change that is caused both progress and setbacks. If the changes caused lead to progress, it can be said that the desire is in accordance with the plans and goals that have been set. However, if there have been deviations or obstacles in the implementation of the deviation activities, it must be understood by a leader in order to provide the best solution in the future. This control or supervision is carried out to prevent and correct an error. If there are deviations, the steps that must be taken are to take corrective actions and overcome these deviations. In general, the problem of managing the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism is that there are some who do not have knowledge in the field of tourism, so in this case the rainbow bridge mangrove forest manager requires training for the development and improvement of the quality of human resources.

# The inhibiting factors for the management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism

The inhibiting factors are problems or obstacles that will be faced in managing the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism, while the inhibiting factors for the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism management based on research results from researchers include:

#### Limited Source of Funds

Mangrove ecotourism is in line with research (Djafar & Maros, 2019) that there are limited sources of funds for the development, arrangement and management of ecotourism. This is also supported by (Nurhadi et al., 2014) revealing that with limited funds, ecotourism management is not optimal because funds are one of the factors that influence its success in carrying out its predetermined programs.

#### Accessibility and Inadequate Facilities and Infrastructure

In general, ecotourism places more emphasis on environmental conservation, an *icon* in these ecotourism destinations. An area to be developed into an ecotourism destination needs supporting elements, not only relying on the potential and natural beauty. This will indirectly make visitors interested in coming to these ecotourism destinations. However, there is one other important thing that will make visitors

interested in visiting ecotourism destinations, namely accessibility. The better and smoother the road access is, the more interested tourists will be to visit the location. Of course, road access is a consideration for tourists before visiting a destination. In the context of ecotourism in the rainbow bridge mangrove forest, this is one of the factors that hinders the development of ecotourism. Based on the results of observations of researchers in the field, road access when entering the rainbow bridge mangrove ecotourism forest is not good.

#### There is an Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions (PPKM)

The outbreak of COVID-19 cases in Indonesia in 2020 caused all sectors to experience paralysis, including the tourism sector which was also affected by this non-natural disaster. So that this situation requires the government to carry out policies related to crowds and crowds, which is certainly related to the tourism sector in Indonesia. The policy carried out by the Indonesian government is to temporarily close or lock down almost all tourist destinations in Indonesia.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and analysis that has been done by the authors provide conclusions and suggestions, among others:

- 1. The ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest carried out by BUMDES Banglas Bestari shows that the management has implemented the concept of sustainable tourism but has not been implemented optimally. The existence of this mangrove forest ecotourism can have an impact on environmental, economic and social aspects. Ecotourism management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest as a tourist destination has a good impact on the environment, of course, such as preserving and planting mangrove seedlings and creating jobs and increasing income by participating in the management of this ecotourism. However, there are still some things that are still not going well, it can be seen from the absence of planning documents, the lack of coordination and supervision of the management of ecotourism which is still less organized and structured which can be seen from the absence of a fixed or routine schedule for monitoring the mangrove forest ecotourism bridge rainbow. Knowledge about tourism is still lacking and the maintenance carried out by the manager has not been maximized.
- 2. The inhibiting factor in the management of the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism is the limited source of funds which makes it difficult to maintain and maintain several existing facilities, as well as the planned development being delayed because the existing budget is prioritized for handling Covid-19. Then access roads and facilities and infrastructure are not adequate which is an important factor in the visit sector. Then the implementation of restrictions on community activities (PPKM) so that the rainbow bridge mangrove forest ecotourism must be temporarily closed.

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